

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A suture needle is disclosed that includes a shaft, the shaft being marked at least partially with a visual indicator; and a puncture tip at one end of the shaft. The shaft of the needle includes a front surface and a rear surface. The front and/or rear surface of the needle includes the visual indicator. The visual indicator may be a color, but if both the front and rear surfaces include a color, then the colors of front and rear surfaces are different. Also disclosed are methods of using a suture needles, one such method including: inserting the suture needle into a mammal; viewing the suture needle; and immediately ascertaining the exact orientation of the suture needle with no manipulation of the suture needle.